

## DNR Field Stations

Office hours 7:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

South Central Region (Madison) .. 608/275-3266

Central Office Info Center ..... 608/266-2621

Dodgeville ..... 608/935-3368

Horicon ..... 920/387-7860

Southeast Region (Milwaukee) .... 414/263-8500

Hartford (Pike Lake) ..... 262/670-3400

Kettle Moraine State Forest S. Unit .... 262/594-6200

Plymouth ..... 920/892-8756

Sturtevant ..... 262/884-2300

Northeast Region (Green Bay) .... 920/492-5800

Oshkosh ..... 920/424-3050

Peshtigo ..... 715/582-5000

Sturgeon Bay Service Center ..... 920/746-2860

West Central Region (Eau Claire) .. 715/839-3700

Baldwin ..... 715/684-2914

Black River Falls ..... 715/284-1400

La Crosse ..... 608/785-9000

Wausau ..... 715/359-8126

Wisconsin Rapids ..... 715/421-7800

Northern Region

Antigo ..... 715/627-4317

Brule ..... 715/372-4866

Cumberland ..... 715/822-3590

Park Falls ..... 715/762-3204

Rhineland ..... 715/365-8900

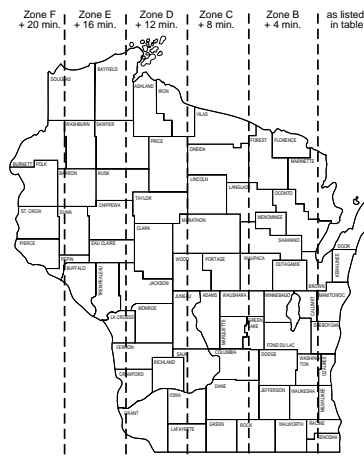
Spooner ..... 715/635-2101

Superior ..... 715/392-7988

Woodruff ..... 715/356-5211

## Hunting Hours

To determine the opening (a.m.) and closing (p.m.) times for all zones, add the minutes shown (see map) to the times listed in the table below.



Hunting Hours			
Date		A.M.	P.M.
Sept.	6	5:51	7:33
	7	5:52	7:31
	8	5:53	7:30
	9	5:54	7:28
	10	5:55	7:26
	11	5:56	7:24
	12	5:58	7:23
	13	5:59	7:21
	14	6:00	7:19
	15	6:01	7:17
	16	6:02	7:15
	17	6:03	7:14
	18	6:04	7:12
	19	6:05	7:10
	20	6:06	7:08
	21	6:07	7:06
	22	6:08	7:05
	23	6:10	7:03
	24	6:11	7:01
	25	6:12	6:59
	26	6:13	6:57
	27	6:14	6:56
	28	6:15	6:54
	29	6:16	6:52
	30	6:17	6:50
Oct.	1	6:18	6:48
	2	6:20	6:47
	3	6:21	6:45
	4	6:22	6:43
	5	6:23	6:41
	6	6:24	6:40
	7	6:25	6:38
	8	6:26	6:36
	9	6:28	6:35
	10	6:29	6:33

## 2000 Wisconsin Bear Hunting Regulations



### Season Dates

Zone C and portions of Zone A and B  
where dogs **are not** permitted:  
**September 6–October 10**

Subzone A1 and portions of Zone A and B  
where dogs **are** permitted:

**September 6–September 12**

- with aid of bait
- with other methods
- not utilizing dogs**

**September 13–October 3**

- with aid of dogs
- with aid of bait
- with other methods

**October 4–October 10**

- with aid of dogs only



Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7921  
Madison, Wisconsin 53707



## Dear Wisconsin Bear Hunter,

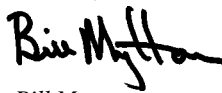
*As hunters, you have been exposed to many of the challenges involved in harvesting of bear and other species across this country. With support from our sporting groups, we will hopefully be able to continue to manage the black bear resource of Wisconsin through sound biological decision making rather than through emotional rhetoric, which has guided decisions made in other states. The ultimate loser in ballot solutions, as experienced in numerous western states, has been the wildlife resource. Let's make sure that we continue to lead in Wisconsin instead of following!*

*At this time, we are seeing an expanding black bear population that we are managing through hunters that utilize both bait and dogs to accomplish a harvest of approximately 3000 bear each year. Losing one of these hunting methods would only make the task of managing an increasing bear population more difficult. In order to assure that the Wisconsin bear population continues to be considered a "quality" wildlife resource, we need our interest groups to support each other and to understand the total management picture.*

*The 2000 bear season will be marked by several changes in application procedures and with a new consistent season opener of the first Wednesday after the Labor Day weekend. Along with the new opening date, we have added 7 more days to the season in an attempt to increase the overall harvest and meet our annual quota objectives. Hunters should note that there will be no turn back option for those hunters that are selected for Class A permits. This new change should allow the Department to complete the entire bear license issuance process around the first week of March.*

*Thanks for your support and cooperation in making the Wisconsin bear management program one of the best in the nation.*

Sincerely,



Bill Mytton

Deer and Bear Ecologist

## Licenses and Permits

### To Apply:

The application deadline for a Class A bear license is the Friday nearest January 15. Applicants must purchase a Special Permit Application (SPA) sticker and affix it to a "Class A Bear Hunting License/Preference Point Application." SPA stickers and applications are available at all license agents, DNR Service Centers, or by calling toll-free 1-877-945-4236 (have your Visa or MC ready; there is a \$3.00 handling fee). Applicants can apply for either a preference point (*Category 1- Class A License Refusal and Preference Acceptance*) or a license (*Category 2- Receive Class A License*). If you do not plan to purchase a license, do not choose Category 2— **if selected, you will lose your preference points even if you do not purchase your Class A License.**

### Class B License

(Residents: \$8, Non-residents: \$100)

Formerly called a "bear pursuit" license, a Class B license is required to *assist* a bear harvest permit holder in hunting activities, including baiting and dog training. To *assist* with the bear hunt means helping a Class A license holder hunt bear by handling dogs, locating bear, or engaging in other bear hunting activities that enable the Class A licensee to locate bear. You do not need to be with a Class A license holder to place bait. A Class B license is required of all members of a dog training group (12 years and older) if they are handling dogs, locating bear, or assisting the dog owners in locating bear, monitoring radios, trailing, or tracking. Persons under the age of 12 can engage in any of these activities without purchasing a license.

### Class A License

(Residents: \$41, Non-Residents: \$201)

Formerly called a "bear harvest permit", a Class A bear license allows the holder to shoot and tag a bear. It also includes all the privileges of a Class B bear license.

### Bear Hunting Back Tag

A bear hunting Back Tag is issued to all Class A and Class B bear licensees. Back tags must be worn while hunting bear, training dogs, or assisting the holder of a Class A bear license. Back tags do not have to be worn while baiting bears.

### Permit Issuance

The number of bear permits issued per management zone is based upon previous hunter success rates and current bear population estimates.

Hunters are selected using a cumulative preference system. Applicants who have been unsuccessful for the greatest number of years are chosen first. Hunters must apply every 3 years to maintain their preference status.

## Firearm and Archery Restrictions

### It is illegal to:

- ❖ Hunt bear with any rim-fire rifle, .17 caliber center-fire rifle, .410 shotgun, fully automatic firearm, or with ammunition loaded with full metal jacket, non-expanding type bullets.
- ❖ Use handguns, unless they are loaded with .357, .41 and .44 magnum caliber cartridges or any other caliber handgun chambered for commercially-manufactured cartridges which produce a minimum muzzle energy of 1,000 foot pounds. These handguns must have a minimum barrel length of 5½ inches measured from the muzzle to the firing pin with the action closed.
- ❖ Use a muzzleloader, unless it is a smoothbore muzzleloading firearm of .45 caliber or larger, or a rifled muzzleloading firearm of .40 caliber or larger.
- ❖ Hunt bear with a bow having a pull of less than 30 pounds, or to use arrows which have metal broadhead blades less than seven-eighths of an inch wide.
- ❖ Possess while hunting, any crossbow (except permanently disabled residents and nonresidents under DNR permit) or poisoned, drugged or explosive tipped arrow.
- ❖ Possess, place or transport, in or on any moving or stationary vehicle, any firearm, bow or crossbow, unless the firearm is unloaded and enclosed within a carrying case, and the bow or crossbow is unstrung or enclosed within a carrying case.

## Road Hunting

### It is illegal to:

- ❖ Hunt within 50 feet of the roadway's center.
- ❖ Discharge a firearm, or shoot an arrow from a bow or a bolt from a crossbow from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the roadway's center.

This prohibition applies to all public roads which are either paved or indicated on a current Department of Transportation county highway map. Unpaved fire lanes are exempt and shown as dotted lines on county maps.

*Note: Class A disabled permit holders are exempt from certain portions of this requirement when hunting from a stationary vehicle. Contact your local DNR office for more information.*

## Other Restrictions

It is illegal to:

- ❖ Shoot or molest any bear in a den, hunt bear in any dump or sanitary landfill, or kill a cub or any adult bear accompanied by a cub or cubs. (Research has provided us with a general guideline for distinguishing adult bears from cubs: bears exceeding 43 inches, as measured from the tip of the nose to the base of the tail, are rarely cubs. Hunters concerned with distinguishing a cub from an adult bear should consider laying a 43 inch log next to their bait to assist in determining the size of a bear.) *If you're not sure, don't shoot!*
- ❖ Possess a bear carcass unless lawfully tagged.
- ❖ Sell, buy, trade or barter bear hides unless the claws, head and teeth are attached, and you possess a valid Class A bear license or taxidermist license. Bear claws and teeth may not be sold, purchased, traded or bartered when separated from the hide. The sale of other bear parts is also prohibited.

## Bear Hunting Management Zones

- ❖ **Hunters who apply for and receive a Class A bear license for subzone A1 may hunt only in subzone A1. Hunters who receive a Class A bear license to hunt in zone A may hunt in subzone A1 or any part of zone A.**

Zone A has been split in an effort to shift hunting pressure from the more heavily hunted portions of zone A to subzone A1, an area which has traditionally received less pressure and has had greater numbers of bear damage and nuisance complaints. Because A1 is a subzone and falls within zone A, the State Administrative Code requires that hunters with zone A licenses be allowed to also hunt in subzone A1.

## Baiting

It is illegal to:

- place, use or hunt over bait contained within or containing metal, paper, plastic, glass, wood (other than hollow stumps) or other nondegradable materials.
- use any baiting material, liquid or scent for attracting wild animals containing honey, bones, fish, meat, solid animal fat (which includes bacon grease) or parts of animal carcasses.
- place or hunt over baiting material, liquid or scent within 50 yards of any trail, road or campsite used by the public.
- hunt over baiting material, liquid or scent during the archery season without possessing a valid, unused bear harvest permit or archery deer tag.
- use or hunt over a baited area containing more than 10 gallons of bait material or liquid scent. *Note: You may hunt over material deposited by natural vegetation or found solely as a result of normal agricultural practices.*

It is illegal to:

- ❖ hunt or pursue animals, or train dogs, in an area baited in violation of **a, b, or e** (above) from July 1 through January 1 unless the area is completely free of baiting material for at least 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, pursuing animals or dog training.

## Tagging and Registration

- ❖ Immediately upon killing, and before field dressing or moving the bear, you must validate the carcass tag by slitting the marks indicated on the tag. Immediately following validation, the carcass tag shall be attached to the bear at any location on the bear.
- ❖ If quartered, the carcass tag should be attached to the hide and both hide and carcass should be displayed at registration.
- ❖ Each bear must be registered within the county or adjoining county in which the bear was killed **and** within the black bear management zone or subzone in which it was killed no later than 5:00 pm on the day after the kill.
- ❖ The person who tags the bear must keep the carcass and registration tag with the butchered meat until it is consumed.

## Transport

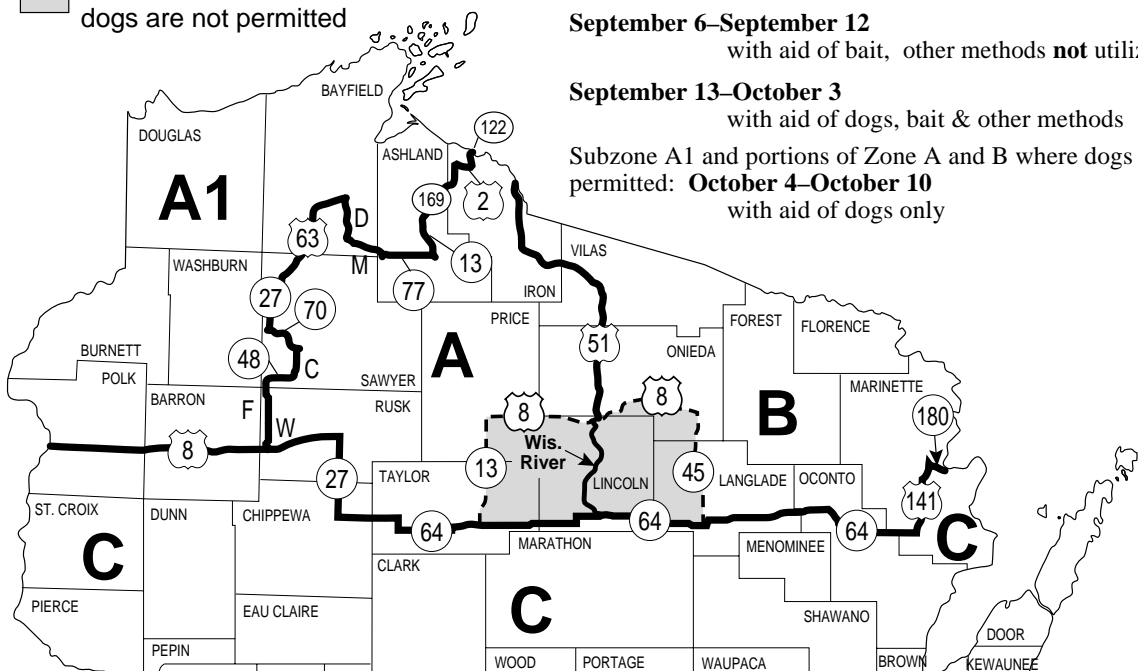
It is illegal to:

- ❖ Transport another person's unregistered bear unless accompanied by the person issued the carcass tag.

## Bear Hunting Management Zones

— Black Bear management zone boundary

■ Portions of zones A and B where dogs are not permitted



(Zone C extends south to Wisconsin State Line)

### 2000 Season Dates

Zone C and portions of Zone A and B where dogs **are not** permitted: **September 6–October 10**

**September 6–September 12**

with aid of bait, other methods **not** utilizing dogs

**September 13–October 3**

with aid of dogs, bait & other methods

Subzone A1 and portions of Zone A and B where dogs **are** permitted: **October 4–October 10**

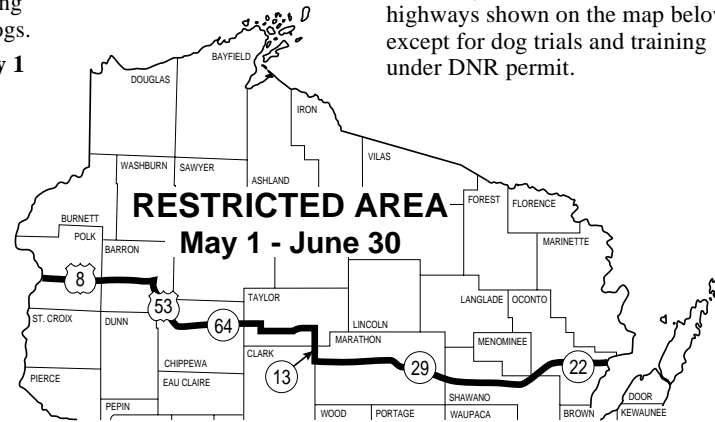
with aid of dogs only

# Dog Training and Use

## It is illegal to:

- ❖ Hunt bear with dogs, except in the non-shaded portions of zones A, A1, and B of the bear hunting management zones map during the season for dogs.
- ❖ Train dogs by pursuing bear **except** during **July 1 through August 31**. Bear dog training is not permitted during the bear hunting season.
- ❖ Train dogs on DNR lands, from April 15 through July 31, unless the dog is on a leash no longer than 8 feet, except on Class 1 field trial grounds or for bear dog training on DNR lands other than state parks after July 1.
- ❖ Hunt or train dogs unless one person in the group has on their person rabies tags or dog license tags for each dog.
- ❖ Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with a dog that is not tattooed, or that isn't wearing a collar with the owner's name and address attached.
- ❖ Allow the dogs to kill any wild animal.
- ❖ Hunt, train dogs, or pursue bear with more than 6 dogs in a single pack, regardless of the number of bear hunters or the dog's ownership.
- ❖ Replace a dog engaged in the pursuit of a bear with another dog. However, dogs may be added to the pack up to the maximum of 6 dogs.

- ❖ Hunt or pursue any free-roaming wild animal with the aid of any dog, from May 1 to June 30, north of the highways shown on the map below, except for dog trials and training under DNR permit.



If not in possession of a Class A license, a Class B license is required of all members of a dog training group (12 years and older) if they are handling dogs, locating bear, or assisting the dog owners in locating a bear, monitoring radios, trailing, or tracking. Persons under the age of 12 can engage in any of these activities without purchasing a license.

- ❖ Transport an unregistered bear, in or on a vehicle, unless the animal is openly exposed and placed so that the riders cannot handle the carcass tag.

*Note: Residents and nonresidents may transport legally possessed bear out of state.*

## Bear Damage Assistance

Bear damage to crops is sometimes severe enough that the DNR may authorize landowners to kill bears prior to the fall hunting season. We know that many hunters wish to improve hunter-landowner relationships and would be willing to assist in the shooting of bears causing damage. Willing hunters would be expected to act promptly, within 48 hours of notification, and get to the damage site to assist the landowner. Since shooting is restricted to the damage site, dog use is not allowed. Interested hunters should contact their local DNR office for more information.

**Pick up litter and keep your hunting grounds healthy!**

*The contents of this pamphlet were prepared by the Department of Natural Resources. A portion of the printing costs were paid for by the Wisconsin Bow Hunters' Association and the Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association.*

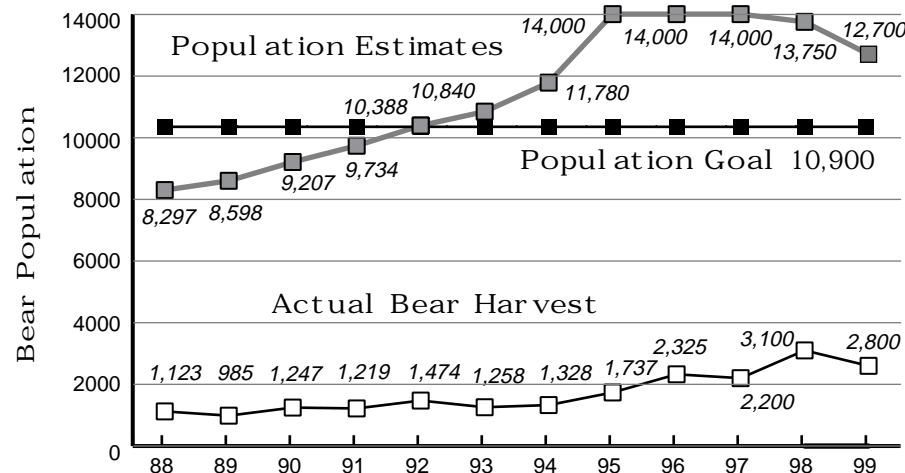


Wisconsin Bow Hunters' Association  
PO Box 240  
Clintonville, WI 54929



Wisconsin Bear Hunters' Association  
6887 HWY E  
Abrams, WI 54101

## Bear Population and Harvest Trends: 1988-1999



**Support Ethical Responsible Hunting**

**Report Violations  
Call 1-800-847-9367**

Toll Free • Statewide • 24-Hour • Confidential

(This is not an information number.)

Conservation wardens may enter private lands while performing their duties.